

the rights of the House and the integrity of its proceedings;

Whereas opening these rules to renegotiation could only lead to weakening them, which would in turn lead to even greater abuse of the world's open markets, particularly that of the United States;

Whereas, conversely, avoiding another divisive fight over these rules is the best way to promote progress on the other, far more important issues facing the WTO members; and

Whereas it is, therefore, essential that negotiations on these antidumping and antisubsidy matters not be reopened under the auspices of the WTO or otherwise:

Now, therefore, be it *resolved*, That the House of Representatives calls upon the President:

(1) not to participate in any international negotiation in which antidumping and antisubsidy rules are part of the negotiating agenda;

(2) to refrain from submitting for congressional approval agreements that require changes to the current antidumping and countervailing duty laws and enforcement policies of the United States; and

(3) to enforce the antidumping and countervailing duty laws vigorously in all pending and future cases.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under rule IX, a resolution offered from the floor by a Member other than the majority or the minority leader as a question of the privileges of the House has immediate precedence only at a time designated by the Chair within 2 legislative days after the resolution is properly noticed.

Pending that designation, the form of the resolution noticed by the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. VISCLOSKEY) will appear in the RECORD at this point.

The Chair will not at this point determine whether the resolution constitutes a question of privilege. That determination will be made at the time designated for consideration of the resolution.

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask to be heard at the appropriate time on the question of whether this resolution constitutes a question of privilege.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair just stated that the gentleman will be notified.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT OF CONGRESS FOR INCREASING PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN DECENNIAL CENSUS

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 193) expressing the support of Congress for activities to increase public participation in the decennial census.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 193

Whereas the decennial census is required by article I, section 2, clause 3 of the Constitution of the United States;

Whereas, in order to achieve a successful decennial census, the joint efforts of Federal, State, and local government, and of other institutions, groups, organizations, and individuals will be needed;

Whereas the Bureau of the Census has implemented a partnership program through which a comprehensive outreach, education, and motivation campaign is being carried out to encourage all segments of the population to participate in the upcoming census; and

Whereas it is fitting and proper that Congress seek to promote the efforts of the Bureau of the Census, and of the other aforementioned institutions, organizations, groups, and individuals to achieve a successful decennial census: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the Congress—

(1) recognizes the importance of achieving a successful decennial census;

(2) encourages State and local governments, community leaders, and all other parties involved in this joint undertaking to continue to work to ensure a successful census;

(3) reaffirms the spirit of cooperation that exists between Congress and the Bureau of the Census with respect to achieving a successful census; and

(4) asserts this public partnership between Congress and the Bureau of the Census to promote the decennial census.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MILLER) and the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MILLER).

(Mr. MILLER of Florida asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H. Con. Res. 193.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I think it is very appropriate that we take up this legislation immediately following the legislation on civility. This has been a very controversial issue for the past several years, and today we have an issue that with respect to the census is something that we on both sides of the aisle, I think, will agree on.

Specifically, this important bipartisan effort of Congress and the Census Bureau is to join together in a partnership to promote the census. In just under 6 months, the Census Bureau will undertake the largest peacetime mobilization effort in this Nation's history, conducting the 2000 decennial census. This massive undertaking deserves our support at the local level.

The key to ensuring a successful census that counts everyone in America is outreach and promotion in every neighborhood. Broad-based participation in the census must start from within our communities. The Census Bureau must make and use every effort possible to promote participation in the census.

Just last week, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY), the ranking member of the subcommittee, and I attended the kick-off ceremony for the 2000 Census advertising campaign. The gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) and I are hopeful that this first ever advertising campaign will help to reverse the trend of decreasing mail response rates.

Another important tool to be used by the Census Bureau is the partnership program. Without strong and effective partnerships at the local level, we cannot have a successful census. The fanciest ad campaigns or sophisticated computer programs will all fail if people at the local level do not become involved in the census.

The Census Bureau is in the process of forming these important partnerships with thousands of groups, organizations, and individuals from all sectors of the population, both large and small, ranging from Goodwill industries to local places of worship. It is very appropriate that Congress join with these groups across the Nation by partnering with the Census Bureau.

These partnership programs are designed to utilize resources and knowledge of the local partners. And who knows better the local area and problems the Bureau may face than the Members of the House who work tirelessly for their 435 districts across the Nation?

Moreover, the Members of this House who work tirelessly for their districts all have a vested interest in seeing that their communities get the most accurate count possible. We know what it will take to have a successful census in our districts. It just makes sense for Congress to promote the census.

After all, the decennial census distributes billions of dollars in Federal funds. Data users from demographers to city planners, from businesses to universities, will use census data to determine their communities' needs.

We, as representatives, owe it to our constituents to make sure that they receive the services they need. The best way to do this is through promoting participation in our districts. This is not a Republican issue or a Democratic issue. An accurate census is in everyone's best interest.

More often than not, Mr. Speaker, when I have come to the floor, I have raised serious concerns about the upcoming census. The Census Bureau is going to spend near \$4.5 billion in this fiscal year for the 2000 Census. This effort will require very vigorous oversight by the Subcommittee on the Census. The subcommittee still has some concerns about the Bureau's plan and, of course, this issue of the use of estimation remains unresolved, ultimately to be decided by the courts.

However, Mr. Speaker, there are Census Bureau programs that every Member of this body can feel comfortable embracing, and the Congressional Partnership is one of those programs. My staff and the staff of the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) have been working very hard to make this membership between the Bureau and the House of Representatives a success.

Director Prewitt held briefings for Members and explained the partnership program and answered questions. I believe the Bureau has put together a

comprehensive set of activities that Members can easily take back to their district to increase public participation.

House Concurrent Resolution 193 is a resolution that affirms a partnership between the Census Bureau and the House of Representatives. House Concurrent Resolution 193 recognizes the importance of achieving a successful census, encourages groups to continue to work towards a successful census, reaffirms our spirit of cooperation with the Census Bureau, and asserts a public partnership between Congress and the Bureau of the Census.

□ 1415

While we may have had our differences in the past, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) and I have joined forces to introduce this legislation that merits broad based bipartisan support. The decennial census is a cornerstone of our democracy and it is vital that all Members of Congress, Republicans and Democrats alike, publicly support activities to enhance public participation.

I would like to thank the gentlewoman from New York and her staff for their hard work in support of this effort. I would also like to thank the cosponsors. I encourage everyone to vote for House Concurrent Resolution 193.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I likewise would like to thank the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MILLER) for working in such a bipartisan manner on this resolution. We have had our differences in the past over the best way to conduct the census, but I think we both agree that now is the time to put those differences behind us and to get about conducting the most accurate census we can, the massive operation of the 2000 census.

On a personal note, I must say that regardless of our differences, it was never personal, you have always been a gentleman and I have enjoyed tremendously working with you.

I am very happy to join the gentleman from Florida in sponsoring House Resolution 193, a resolution which reaffirms the spirit of cooperation between the Census Bureau and Congress and establishes a public partnership between us. This partnership is vital, because though the Bureau is doing an excellent job in preparing for the 2000 census, it truly is a huge undertaking which deserves all the support we can give it. Just to give Members an idea of the scale of the 2000 census, it will be the largest peacetime mobilization ever conducted by our country. It will count approximately 275 million people in 120 million housing units across our Nation. In order to carry out this massive operation, the Census Bureau will have to process 1.5 million pieces of paper and it will have

to do this in a very short time. To conduct the 2000 census, the Bureau will have to fill more than 860,000 temporary positions. This is more people than are currently in the United States Army.

In a very real sense, the 2000 census has already begun. The forms are being printed as we speak and transported around the Nation. The media time for the \$160 million advertising campaign is being bought even as we are right here speaking. During the time when the public will be filling out their census forms and mailing them back, February through mid March, the buy on public television and on television in general will be the third largest in the Nation, preceded only by McDonald's and Burger King. It will be in 17 different languages in order to increase awareness and participation in the census 2000. The Bureau plans to open 520 local census offices. One hundred thirty of those are already open. The remaining 390 are leased and will be open on a flow basis through the beginning of next year.

Every Member of Congress needs to do all they can to encourage this partnership with the 2000 census. I urge Members to appoint a census liaison person in their district offices to keep them up to date on local census events. Their offices will be getting a great number of calls and inquiries once the media begins to hit the public. I urge Members to use their newsletters to increase awareness of the census, to produce public service announcements for local cable and network television, to participate in the openings of the local census offices in their districts and participate in other local census events. These are just a few of many ideas on how to promote the census in your districts and to increase a more accurate count.

One program that the Bureau has developed for the census, which is my personal favorite, is the Census in the Schools program. Recently, Rudy Crew, who is the Chancellor of the New York City school system, attended a Census in the Schools program with me in my district, and he pledged to make it a priority in every classroom throughout New York City. More than 50 percent of all those not counted in 1990 were young people, were children. The Census in the Schools project aims to help children learn what a census is and why it is important to them that their families and the community at large participate. The program also aims to increase participation in census 2000 by engaging not only the children but their parents so that they can fill out census forms. It will also help recruit teachers and parents to work as census takers.

Mr. Speaker, State, local and tribal governments as well as businesses and nonprofit organizations have become partners with the Census Bureau in an effort to make the 2000 census the best that we have ever had. The constitutionally mandated census we take

every 10 years is one of the most important civic rituals our Nation has. It determines the distribution of political and economic power in our country for a decade. Over \$189 billion per year in Federal funds, that is over \$2 trillion over 10 years, will be distributed based on census distribution formulas that will build roads, assist day care centers, senior centers, public education, public transportation and many, many of the services that come into our districts and into our local communities. It is an important civic ceremony in which every resident should participate. I urge every Member to actively participate in making it a success.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. RYAN), a member of the subcommittee.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the chairman of the committee for yielding time.

I just want to say it is a pleasure to serve on this committee with my fellow members, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS), the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY), the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MILLER) and the others as well. We do disagree on methodology from time to time on this issue but clearly in this realm we do not disagree, we all stand united for passage of this resolution and here is why. We as Members of Congress are in a very unique position to promote the census. As the prior speakers had mentioned, the census is an extraordinarily important civic demonstration which has so much consequences in each of our districts, not just on whether or not we are accurately counted for or not but on Federal funding formulas, on redistribution of certain formulas that go back to our districts. We do not want to live with inaccurate data for 10 years. But we can make a difference in our districts. That is why I ask all of my colleagues to get involved in this.

In my district, we have a key person in our district office working on a census plan. I am traveling the district with another Democratic Member of the Congress the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. BARRETT) later on this year to do a bipartisan promotion of the decennial census.

Here are some of the examples that any Member of Congress can do to promote the census in their area:

As mentioned before, we can use our congressional newsletters or websites to increase awareness of the upcoming census and what it means to our communities. We can conduct or participate in town hall meetings that emphasize participation in the census. We can support local Complete Count Communities and other community-based partnerships, something that I am very much involved in back home. We can produce and air public service announcements that can be used for local TV, radio and print media outlining uses of census data, confidentiality

guarantees and employment opportunities. We can conduct walking tours and census awareness day activities in hard-to-count communities. We can visit local census offices and training sites to show support for local workers and emphasize the importance of the work they will do for their communities. We can form alliances with local and tribal governments and businesses to promote the importance of the work they will do for their communities. Participate in Census in the Schools forums to encourage local educators and administrators to use the Census in the Schools materials and raise awareness in the schools. We can participate in the grand opening of local census offices. Encourage local businesses to promote the 2000 census and sponsor census activities.

I know that is a mouthful, but it is very convenient, as the Census Bureau has given to each of our offices this handy little kit. It is called the Congressional Partnership Toolkit. This is available in every Member's office. I am sure my colleagues can get additional copies of this. It has very easy to use, digestible forms that we can use to put together plans in our own congressional districts to promote the census. The point is, we have a responsibility as Members of Congress to promote the census on behalf of our own constituents so that we are counted for fully in our congressional districts. There is a plan and there is a way to do this. It is a wonderful opportunity for those of us to get to know other people in our congressional districts, to get government officials working together, to get communities working together. This census is a wonderful civic demonstration.

I encourage every Member of Congress, take a look at this Congressional Partnership Toolkit, made available for us from the Census Bureau, take a look at it, get your offices involved in it, work with other Members of Congress in your delegation across the aisle. This is something that we can work to improve so that everyone is counted for in the next census. It is a wonderful celebration of democracy that we have to take very seriously here. I encourage all of my colleagues to take this issue very, very seriously.

I would like to thank the gentlewoman from New York and the gentleman from Florida for their leadership on this issue.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS), the distinguished member of the Subcommittee on Census. For the past 2 years he has worked selflessly, consistently and with great dedication on any and every census issue. I thank the gentleman for his leadership. We all in this body on both sides appreciate all of his hard work.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to first of all commend and congratulate the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MIL-

LER) and the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) for not only the legislative work that they have done in terms of trying to make sure that we have adequate resources for the census but also for the tremendous individual work that they have done to try and make sure that we have a fair, accurate and complete count of all the people in the United States of America. And so I commend and congratulate both of them.

Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Subcommittee on Census, I am pleased today to rise in support of this resolution urging a public and private partnership of the participation in the decennial census. As census day rapidly approaches, it is important for communities to work with the Census Bureau and urge people to participate.

There are several things we can do across the country, no matter where we are, no matter where we live, no matter where we come from to urge participation in the 2000 census. Among these many things include forming a complete count committee, a cross-section of community representatives working to design and implement a localized census 2000 outreach and promotion program. In the Seventh Congressional District of Illinois, I have formed such a committee. They are busy working to ensure full participation. I want to thank Reverend Johnny Miller and Reverend C.L. Sparks for taking the leadership in this effort. We have the Census in the Schools program under way. I want to thank Superintendent Paul Vallas and all of the schools not only in Chicago but throughout my district in the suburban communities of Oak Park, Maywood, Bellwood and Broadview as well.

In addition, we can encourage local businesses, organizations, churches, sororities and fraternities to get involved by providing information through their businesses, calendars, newsletters and church bulletins. An accurate census could ensure fair representation in Federal, State and local governments. An accurate census could mean an extra senior citizen facility or a school.

Thus, I urge communities to form a partnership with the Census Bureau and let us work together to ensure full participation in the 2000 census. I am pleased to support this resolution. Again, I commend the gentleman from Florida and the gentlewoman from New York. I also want to commend the chairman of the Hispanic Caucus on the Census, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GONZALEZ), and the chairman of the Black Caucus Committee on Census for the outstanding work both of these caucuses have done and are doing throughout their communities in America to try and make sure that we get a fair, complete, honest count. Because if you are not counted, then you do not count.

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. SOUDER), another member of the subcommittee.

(Mr. SOUDER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

□ 1430

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, first I will join with those praising our chairman, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MILLER), who stuck with this through good times and tough times, as well as the ranking Democrat on the committee, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY), because it has really been a struggle at times, and then, as has been pointed out here, there are things we agree on.

Whatever the court in the end rules on I believe is guessing, and I believe they will rule to uphold the Constitution, but every Member of this body, Republican or Democrat, has a stake in making sure that this count is as complete as possible within our districts, because if the court rules, as I think they will, that you cannot guess and you have to have a real count, everybody needs to make sure that their count is actual and does not miss the hard-to-reach population. If it is going to be estimated, the estimates will come off of a real count, because ultimately that is how estimating is done as well.

So it is important that every Member get directly involved in every aspect of this. My office has, unfortunately, been involved on a couple of points early on that shows the difficulty of doing the census and why every Member should be paying attention.

Fort Wayne, Indiana, has undergone an aggressive annexation program, unlike many other cities. The Census Department still does not have the right maps in the hands of our counters. In fact, their recent estimate of population, I forget the actual number, is around 30,000 off. Now, 30,000 may not be a big number to Chicago or Los Angeles, but it is a huge number to Fort Wayne, Indiana; and it is inconceivable to me at this late date we are still having trouble with the maps. It has been important for our office to stay involved to back up our local census workers who are very concerned about the lack of accurate maps.

I have also been involved, and we had a great visit with the regional administrators from Chicago who came into Fort Wayne and met with Reverend Humphries and our local citizen group, because we have another problem. Who is going to go door to door? Where are the workers going to come from? What type of people are they going to be?

The two places they are doing the interviews are, in fact, suburban. The undercounted populations are generally minority, hard-to-reach populations, sometimes homeless, sometimes illegal immigrants who also get counted in the census and are important to each one of our districts.

You need to have people in the community organizations who live in that community who can go and reach them and get them to cooperate with the

census, because in fact the mail-out will have a decent response, but, ultimately, particularly in the hard-to-count areas, the door-to-door response and the community organization response is critical. To do that, you need people from within that community.

As a Member of Congress, you know, me going door to door in the urban center of Fort Wayne, I might have some success. But I will tell you what, there is going to be a lot more success if it is an African-American locally based group or Hispanic group or whatever group is in a given area going door to door in these programs, and the Census Bureau needs to take that into account; and you need to help hold them accountable that they are working to where they can get, because sometimes it is hard to recruit and hard to make those people comfortable in coming to work for the Government. If you only do your interviews for employees out in the suburbs, that is who you are going to get.

So hopefully as Members of Congress, not only do the schools and census show up at your local Census Bureau to try to support those workers there, to encourage them in what is a very difficult job, because many people in fact fear that this census is far more intrusive than it is. It takes 5 to 10 minutes, unless you have a long form, which is a whole different ball game and not what we are doing here. The short form is only 5 to 10 minutes, but it scares people off.

Unless you get involved in supporting and encouraging these people, they are going to get demoralized. If they get sloppy, it is each Member of Congress and the people who live in their districts that lose, because our districts will be undercounted; and we have a stake not only for the representation, for the potential as it relates indirectly to grants and other prestige things regarding the size of your cities, but it also relates to the total accumulation in your State in how many Congressmen you have representing you.

For example, there are a number of States right on the bubble that could lose a Congressman if they have an undercount. In other words, you could lose part of your right to vote in your State merely because you did not participate in the census and because your Member of Congress did not help with the count.

We each have a deep stake in this, our communities have a stake in this, the churches do, the people in our districts do; and I encourage each Member to do what they can to get a fair, accurate, and complete count.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. SOUDER) for his comments. The gentleman rightly pointed out that participating in the census is merely 10 minutes at most every 10 years, so every resident in our country should, at the very least, give 10 min-

utes every 10 years to be part of this important civic ceremony of the census 2000.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. MEEK), the distinguished leader of the Census Task Force for the Black Caucus, who earlier this year hosted, along with the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MILLER), a hearing in Florida on the census. The gentlewoman has been a consistent and strong voice of support for the Census Bureau and the census, and I thank the gentlewoman for her leadership.

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise in very strong support of this resolution that has been brought to the floor by the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MILLER), with whom I have worked from the very beginning on the census. Each of them has worked assiduously throughout this time to be sure that we get to the place we are now. They are telling us now that they have worked very hard, that Congress has stepped forward, and now the ball is in our court, that is, each one of us as Members have our job to do.

This resolution expresses the support of Congress for activities to increase public participation in our census. That is very important. All this I think is good and it is very fine, but both Members here who introduced this resolution have helped me all along in trying to get a bill passed here in the Congress, a real census bill in addition to the resolution which we are going to pass today. So this real census bill which they have tried to get passed and to get brought to the floor presents a very real and meaningful impact on lowering the undercount of all people, and that is the bill that was called H.R. 683, the Decennial Census Improvement Act.

What it does, it says we have taken the message that these two strong people, the chairman and the ranking member, are bringing to us today in a resolution proposing that we hire welfare recipients and that we hire indigenous people who live in these neighborhoods so that they can help us come up with a good count. Passage of this bill will substantially increase the available core of community-based census enumerators. When members of the communities work as enumerators, we maximize the chance that everyone will be counted.

Let us keep up the good work of this resolution, Mr. Chairman, and even go farther and try our very best to get H.R. 683 passed as well. I again want to thank the ranking member and the chairman.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GONZALEZ), the Chair of the Census Task Force in the Hispanic Caucus, a new Member, a freshman from the great State of Texas. Already the gentleman has brought new leadership and enthu-

siasm, a tremendous amount of dedication, and long hours really in reaching out to the Latino community, which is one of the largest undercounted communities in America.

We know that 8.4 million people were missed and that 4.4 million were counted twice, and that a large number of those were children and minorities. On behalf of the subcommittee I want to thank the gentleman for all he has done. He has always been there, and he has brought great leadership to this issue.

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this resolution, and again I wish to follow everybody else and commend the chairman and the ranking member of the subcommittee on their fine work and the many hours they have placed into this particular project, which really is of great importance to every American and to everyone on both sides of the aisle.

I think we can all agree, and the speakers before me have pointed out, we have reached a point where we know we need to agree on the task at hand, and that is education, awareness, and participation.

What do I mean by that? We all know that this outreach campaign will underscore benefits of the census participation. We are going to explain to everyone that they have a vested interest in responding to this census. The outreach campaign is the largest ever aimed at increasing participation in the national census. It includes partners from nearly 30,000 community groups, civic organizations, labor unions, the Congress, Federal agencies and corporations, as well as elected officials at the State, local and tribal governmental levels.

What does it mean to me personally? I do not want to occasion the same mistakes that we had back in 1990 that resulted in undercount in my State of Texas of 500,000 residents, 250,000 of which were Hispanic. I do not want that same mistake repeated. I do not want history to be repeated in my district, where we missed 39,000 residents, 16,000 of which were children, enough to fill 29 schools and to hire 1,000 teachers.

They did not exist for the purpose of the census, but we still had to teach them; we still had to house them; we still had to feed them. They participated in every program at the State, local and, of course, national level; but, for all intents and purposes, they did not exist, and we cannot afford for that to happen again.

Every Member in this House knows their district better than anyone else, so it is a unique challenge. But it is also a unique opportunity to do our fair share, our responsibility, and make this the most accurate census in the history of our Nation.

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, we as representatives bring a unique ability to the census to

help make it the most accurate possible. There are 435 of us and each of us represents a little different area. Several that have spoken today each have their own individual problems.

My district in Florida, Sarasota, and Bradenton, in Florida, have large numbers of retirees. A lot of them are just what we call "snow birds" that come down temporarily from northern States. They live in mobile home parks, they live in high-rise condos, and they create a problem of how do we count them.

We have, because of agriculture, a certain number of immigrant migrant workers that are hard to count. The gentleman from Texas (Mr. GONZALEZ) is close to the Mexican border. He has a very difficult challenge to have people counted.

The district of the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) is actually, surprisingly, Manhattan, a very affluent area, but, again, a very difficult area to count. Because of the high-rise co-ops that are there, it makes it hard to get in to count people.

But the fact is we all can contribute something. The district of the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. RYAN) has a lot of rural areas. There is a high mail response rate out of Wisconsin. However, because of the rural nature, it makes it difficult. We had a hearing out in Arizona where we were out on an Indian reservation, again, one of the most undercounted parts of our population, and very difficult to count these huge rural areas where it is hard to find people.

But the thing is we know our areas. We have a vested interest, as the other speakers have said, to make sure we get the best count possible. The Census Bureau has come up through this notebook, as the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. RYAN) pointed out, ideas of how we can help prepare our communities and provide that support. There is an action list, and it is on my Web site on my particular home page in the computer; and let me make a couple of comments of some of the items we can do to help contribute to a better count.

First of all, we have a Complete Count Committee. Make sure they are organized in your communities. In Sarasota Thursday night last week they had a hearing where Chairman Shannon Staub of the County Commission and County Commissioner Ray Pilon with members of the Census Bureau were there discussing getting ready for the count for next March and April. Work with these groups.

Encourage your local businesses and local governments to get involved. Do things like put something in the newsletters for their employees, or if they are sending out newsletters, to their customers. In my county, hopefully the utility people will put in their bills a statement to remind people in March to get involved in the census.

There are a number of ways you can promote it. Put posters up in your places of work where customers will

see it. Reach out to the groups that are hard to count. For example, I am going to try to reach out to the migrant community where we have a lot of migrant workers in our area, whether it is going out and walking through the neighborhoods and bringing attention, getting news coverage of it, making people aware of the census, but also making people aware of the confidentiality of the information.

This is one of the greatest challenges we have, is to make people aware that it is a Federal crime to disclose information on the census. As a Member of Congress, we all get to have classified information available to us. But when we go to the Census Bureau, I have to go and raise my hand and sign a pledge, an oath, to not disclose that information. It is confidential for 72 years, and the Secret Service, the IRS, the INS, they do not have access to that information for 72 years. So each office should get involved, because, I guarantee you, there is going to be a need for information on the census.

□ 1445

When this ad campaign cranks up soon, we are going to start getting calls: How do we get jobs? I do not like this question. I never got my form.

The more Members know about it, the better off this office is going to be. Do things in the difficult-to-count areas. They are the ones we need to concentrate on and to make sure people are aware of it.

In addition to being aware of it, we need to have action. That is the reason the Census Bureau uses a theme, "It is your future. Don't leave it blank." You have to be aware of the Census, but you have to fill out the form. That is the reason you have to have the action to complete, and get the form completed and sent in.

There are a lot of things we can do: writing op eds for the local newspaper, whether it is the column in the weekly paper or a special editorial the Members will put in. Do some public service announcements on the television or radio stations. They will be glad to run them, especially as it gets close to the April 1 deadline.

We all agree we have to get the most accurate possible Census. We as Members of Congress have that special role where we can have the credibility and give some support to get that job done.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his comments. I want to understore what the gentleman said about the Congressional Partnership Toolkit. Every single congressional office has a copy of this booklet that has all kinds of projects and ways that we can increase awareness and participation in our home districts.

Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from

Tennessee (Mr. FORD), another member of our Subcommittee on Census who has joined us. We thank him for his leadership and hard work.

Mr. FORD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MILLER) and the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY). I say to the gentleman from Florida, we have had our disagreements on the committee, but it is certainly great to see us come together on this day and support this resolution.

Today many States and cities are holding elections around the Nation. We see people exercising their civic duty and responsibility. The Census, as we all know, represents another opportunity for Americans from everywhere in this great Nation to exercise another important civic duty.

A few months back Dr. Prewitt, who deserves some praise and adulation as well, the head of the U.S. Census, was in my district, as I am sure he has been in many districts around the country. He talked about the Census from three aspects: the fact that it builds resources, representation and recognition.

Resources have been touched on. Some \$2 trillion over the next 10 years will be allocated based on the formulas determined by the Census numbers; representation, because political power is divided among the congressional districts and within areas based on the Census numbers; and finally, recognition, because as we all know, our Nation is made up of a patchwork of people from different backgrounds, different religious, racial, and gender backgrounds.

It is estimated in 1990, 8 million people were missed nationally, as the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) has touched upon. Some 86,000 were in my State of Tennessee, and 18,000 are right near Memphis, the district which I represent.

Of the folks missed, 10,000 of those were children in my district, enough to fill 17 schools and employ 350 additional teachers. In addition, Tennesseans, particularly those in the Ninth District, lost out in our fair share of Head Start dollars, on school lunch and educational technology funds, and even businesspeople, researchers, and economists in our district, were deprived of accurate data as they attempted to create or to plan for technological advances to create new jobs and economic growth.

In Memphis we have established a Complete Count Committee made up of community, business, and civic leaders, following the guide of the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MILLER) and certainly our ranking member, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) in trying to ensure that we have participation from all aspects of the community.

One of the great challenges we will have in the coming weeks and months is for Members of Congress and those in the community to do all that we can to

raise awareness. I certainly am committed, Mr. Chairman, and the gentleman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY), and I hope all our colleagues will do the same. We must work to ensure that every citizen participates in this very important civic exercise, not only to be counted but to be recognized, and to ensure that everyone on April 1, 2000, is counted.

I cannot say enough how much I appreciate the leadership of the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MILLER), and certainly that of the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY). She has given me some ideas, and I am sure she has given my colleagues throughout this body ideas on how we might move forward and ensure all are counted on that very important day.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, one thing we all agree on is that we want to have the most accurate count responsible. This is a constitutional responsibility. Article 1 of our Constitution requires us to do this every 10 years.

Since Thomas Jefferson did the first Census in 1790, we have had some problems with it. We recognize there is a problem of a differential undercount. That is wrong. We want the best count possible.

One way that each of us, all 435 of us, can help make that possible is to participate in our local communities, which we know best how to help promote the Census, how to help get people to believe that the Census is confidential, and to complete those forms.

Now is the time to prepare for the Census time next March. I encourage all Members to get involved, and I encourage my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this important resolution.

I would like to begin by recognizing the hard work of my colleagues, Chairman DAN MILLER and Congresswoman CAROLYN MALONEY. They have worked tirelessly on this issue, and I applaud their efforts on this extremely important issue.

H. Con. Res. 193 expresses the support of Congress for activities to increase public participation in the decennial census. As we all know, in order to achieve a successful decennial census, the joint efforts of Federal, State, and local government and other interested parties and grassroots organizations must come together as partners.

The Bureau of the Census has implemented a partnership program through which a comprehensive outreach, education, and motivation campaign is being carried out to encourage all segments of the population to participate in the upcoming census. As I have said many times, Texas has a lot at stake in the current debate over the year 2000 Census. The County of El Paso has a lot to lose if the 2000 Census is conducted the way the 1990 Census was conducted.

In 1900, the census used a traditional head count and made about 26 million mistakes. It

missed over 8 million people completely, double-counted over 4 million and put 13 million in the wrong places. And most of the undercount involved children, people of color and the urban and rural poor.

The Census Bureau estimates that in Texas, the net undercount of residents in 1990 was over 486,000 individuals. The net undercount rate in Texas was .028, which represented the second most undercounted state in the nation. They were either out of town, tossed the form with the junk mail, did not trust the government, feared immigration or bill collection officials, lived in a neighborhood the census workers did not feel like checking.

Whatever the reason, too many individuals were missed. Included in this are over 279,000 Caucasians, 83,300 blacks, 247,000 individuals of Hispanic origin, 8,500 Asian and Pacific Islanders and, over 1,875 American Indians. In addition, over 228,300 children were missed in Texas. Over 25,000 individuals were missed in El Paso alone, enough to fill half of the Sun Bowl. We were the 17th most undercounted district in the nation.

The failure of the 1990 Census to accurately count the population in El Paso County seriously shortchanged the Federal funding that cities within my district should have received during the past decade. In effect, cities like El Paso, Anthony and Socorro were required to utilize funds for schools, roads, health facilities, housing, and other important services for people that were not counted by the census.

The number of children missed in the 16th Congressional district would fill 22 schools staffed by 770 teachers. According to the Council of Great City Schools, every child not counted by the census means that some \$650 in federal resources is lost each year by the school that must educate that child. This equals over \$8 million lost in my Congressional district alone!

We are not alone. The 1990 Census did the same thing nationwide. Two million of those missed in 1990 were children under the age of 18—half the net undercount although they were only about a quarter of the U.S. population in 1990. The 1990 Census affected minorities the most: 4.4 percent of blacks were missed, 5 percent of Hispanics, 12.2 percent of at least one tribe of Native Americans. This differential racial undercount must be addressed by the 2000 Census.

This resolution is sending the right message at the right time—that public participation is necessary to ensure that everyone is counted, especially children, people of color and the urban and rural poor. Anything less is unacceptable.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, to cope with the year 2000 census, the Census Bureau has implemented a partnership program through which a comprehensive outreach, education and motivation campaign is being carried out to encourage all segments of the population to participate in the upcoming count.

This resolution expresses the support of Congress for activities to increase public participation in the decennial census; recognizes the importance of achieving a successful decennial census; encourages state and local governments, community leaders, and all other parties involved in this joint undertaking to continue to work to ensure a successful census; and reaffirms the spirit of cooperation that exists between Congress and the Census

Bureau with respect to achieving a successful census.

Hundreds of thousands of census takers and support personnel will be needed to account for the anticipated 118 million housing units and 275 million people across the United States. But it isn't its size that makes Census 2000 important. It is all the things that we will learn about ourselves that will help America succeed in the next millennium. The census is as important to our nation as highways and telephone lines. Federal dollars supporting schools, employment services, housing assistance, highway construction, hospital services programs for the elderly and more are distributed based on census figures.

How do we know who we are as a country? We only take one big portrait of this country—that is the decennial Census. And if you're not in it, you will be unrecognized. More than \$200 billion in federal funds is distributed to the states based on census figures, as well as political apportionment in the House of Representatives.

Census 2000 will help decision-makers understand which neighborhoods need schools and which ones need greater services for the elderly. But they won't be able to tell what your community needs if you and your neighbors don't fill out your census forms and mail them back.

The message is a simple one, Mr. Speaker; "This is your future. Don't leave it blank." I encourage my colleagues and all Americans to help the Census Bureau in making this snapshot of America's population clearer. If we are not counted, then we are invisible and our communities will lose its fair share of federal funding and political apportionment—we can all help our community and our nation by filling out the census questionnaire, returning it and being counted.

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MILLER) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 193.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof), the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON S. 900, GRAMM-LEACH-BLILEY ACT

Mr. LEACH submitted the following conference report and statement on the Senate bill (S. 900) to enhance competition in the financial services industry by providing a prudential framework for the affiliation of banks, securities firms, insurance companies, and other financial service providers, and for other purposes:

CONFERENCE REPORT (H. REPT. 106-434)

The committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the House to the bill (S. 900), to enhance competition in the financial services industry by providing a prudential framework for the affiliation of banks, securities firms, insurance companies, and other financial service providers, and for other